



NEWTON ABBOT
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
AND THE
CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR
FOR THE YEAR

1 9 6 5

H. M. DAVIES,
M.A., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.
ASSISTANT COUNTY MEDICAL OFFICER :
DEVON COUNTY COUNCIL
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH :
DAWLISH U.D.C.
NEWTON ABBOT R.D.C.
NEWTON ABBOT U.D.C.
TEIGNMOUTH U.D.C. AND
PORT HEALTH AUTHORITY.

6/8, SHERBORNE ROAD,
NEWTON ABBOT

TELEPHONE No. : NEWTON ABBOT 3991

NEWTON ABBOT URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT - 1965

Madam Chairman and Councillors,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I present my Report for the year ended 31st December, 1965, together with that of the Chief Public Health Inspector.

The Vital Statistics regarding Births and Deaths in the Urban District during the year do not differ materially from the rates which apply to the County as a whole. It is interesting to note that of the 316 deaths recorded, 246 were aged 65 years or more and 163 were over 75 years.

The Table concerning the notification of Infectious Diseases shows that 244 of the 251 reported cases were in respect of Measles, which showed itself in epidemic form as it usually does in alternate years. It does not, however, show that there were no cases of Smallpox, Diphtheria, Tetanus, Typhoid, Para-Typhoid or Poliomyelitis. Two new cases of Tuberculosis were notified.

These figures would have been regarded as incredible if reported only fifteen to twenty years ago. The only danger is that they might lead to a state of complacency. These Infectious Diseases are still potentially very dangerous, and for many years to come children will have to receive protection by the appropriate vaccination and immunisation.

It will be observed from the Report regarding the age at death, that the average age of death in a female is five years higher than that for a male. These figures give a very definite lead in the requirements which have to be provided in respect of housing and of welfare accommodation for the aged. Not only does the female live for five or six years longer than her partner, but it must be remembered also that a husband is most usually a few years older than his wife.

From this it is apparent that there must always be a very large and ever increasing number of aged widows in the population, and it is obvious that if the housing needs of these persons is to be met, then the prominent need is for single room flatlets, and also for an acceptance of the fact that it is essential not only from the point of view of the housing authorities, but also for the benefit of the aged persons, that they should agree to move to smaller accommodation as and when this becomes appropriate to their needs.

Criticism will of course be made to the effect that a person should not be forced to move from his or her home. To an extent I accept this criticism, but my experience in having to move persons forcibly under the National Assistance Act, has led me to believe that compulsion is in fact not resented, but in many cases is even appreciated, once the move has, in fact, taken place.

A general acceptance of this principle would, of course, free a large number of houses for the younger persons and the younger families, and would lead to the greatest possible and most economic usage of the houses available within the district.

Another difficulty which is constantly arising in the allocation of adequate welfare or hospital accommodation for aged persons, is the intermediate case which is not requiring a hospital bed, and is yet considered unsuitable by the welfare authorities to be admitted to a welfare home. These unfortunate persons can, on occasion, be subject to considerable delay in finding the appropriate bed and until such time as the two services are much more closely integrated than they are at present, there will, inevitably be difficulty. This problem is of course, very well known, but nevertheless, is allowed to continue to the detriment of many aged persons.

I should like to thank, once again, the Chairman, Councillors and all members of the staff for the help and co-operation received.

I have the honour to be,

Your Obedient Servant,



Medical Officer of Health

August, 1966



Digitized by the Internet Archive
in 2017 with funding from
Wellcome Library

<https://archive.org/details/b29909673>

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

Area (in acres).....	4,156
Population mid 1965.....	18,660
Population 1961 census.....	18,060
Rateable Value as at 1st January, 1965.....	£725,173
Rateable Value as at 31st December, 1965.....	£752,390
Product of 1d. rate.....	£ 3,025

VITAL STATISTICS

Live Births

	Male	Female	total
Legitimate	163	111	274
Illegitimate	10	12	22
	<u>173</u>	<u>123</u>	<u>296</u>
Crude Live Birth rate per 1000 total population			15.86
Corrected Live Birth rate per 1000 total population			17.60
Crude Live Birth rate per 1000 total population Administrative County of Devon			15.0
Corrected Live Birth rate per 1000 total population Administrative County of Devon			18.15
Live Birth rate per 1000 total population England and Wales			18.0
<u>Illegitimate Live Births</u> (per cent of total Live Births)			7.43

Stillbirths

	Male	Female	total
Legitimate	3	3	6
Illegitimate	1	-	1
Stillbirth rate per 1000 total live and still births			23.10
Stillbirth rate per 1000 total live and still births Administrative County of Devon			15.90
Corresponding rate for England and Wales			15.70

Deaths

The average age at death, from all causes, was found to be 73.81 years. The average age of all male deaths was 70.65 and for female deaths 75.66 years.

	Male	Female	Total	
	145	171	316	
Crude Death rate per 1000 total population				16.93
Corrected Death rate per 1000 total population				10.49
Crude Death rate per 1000 total population				
Administrative County of Devon				14.54
Corrected Death rate per 1000 total population				
Administrative County of Devon				10.18
Death rate per 1000 total population England and				
Wales				11.5

Infant Mortality

(Death of Infants under One Year)

	Male	Female	Total	
Legitimate	6	2	8	
Illegitimate	-	-	-	
Infant Mortality rate per 1000 related live births				27.02
Infant Mortality rate Administrative County of Devon				14.90
Corresponding rate for England and Wales				19.0
<u>Legitimate infant deaths</u> per 1000 legitimate live				
births				29.19

Neo-Natal Mortality

(Death of Infants under Four Weeks)

	Male	Female	Total	
Legitimate	5	2	7	
Illegitimate	-	-	-	
Neo-Natal Mortality rate per 1000 related live				
births				23.64
Neo-Natal Mortality rate Administrative County of				
Devon				9.10
Corresponding rate for England and Wales				13.0

Peri-Natal Mortality
(Death of Infants under One Week)

	Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	4	2	6
Illegitimate	-	-	-
Peri-Natal mortality rate (Stillbirths and death of Infants under one week per 1000 total live and still births) 42.90			
Peri-Natal Mortality rate Administrative County of Devon 23.27			
Corresponding rate for England and Wales 26.90			

Maternal Mortality

No maternal deaths occurred in the Newton Abbot Urban District during 1965. Two maternal deaths occurred within the Administrative County of Devon.

AGE AT DEATH

	Male	Female
Infants under Four Weeks	5	2
Four weeks and under One Year	1	-
1 - 4	-	2
5 - 14	-	1
15 - 24	3	2
25 - 34	1	1
35 - 44	3	4
45 - 54	6	4
55 - 64	18	17
65 - 74	50	33
75 and over	58	105
	<u>145</u>	<u>171</u>

Total : 316

CAUSES OF DEATH

	Male	Female
All causes	145	171
Tuberculosis, Respiratory	2	-
Syphilitic Disease	-	1
Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach	2	3
Malignant Neoplasm, Lung, Bronchus	9	1
Malignant Neoplasm, Breast	-	8
Malignant Neoplasm, Uterus		3
Other Malignant and Lymphatic Neoplasms	16	15
Vascular Lesions of Nervous System	27	28
Coronary Disease, Angina	32	24
Hypertension with Heart Disease	1	4
Other Heart Disease	12	41
Other Circulatory Disease	8	3
Pneumonia	9	3
Bronchitis	7	-
Other Diseases of Respiratory System	-	2
Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum	1	2
Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea	1	1
Nephritis and Nephrosis	1	-
Hyperplasia of Prostate	2	-
Congenital Malformations	2	-
Other Defined and Ill-Defined Diseases	7	26
Motor Vehicle Accidents	2	2
All Other Accidents	4	4
	<hr/> 145 <hr/>	<hr/> 171 <hr/>

Total : 316

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

	Male	Female	Total
Erysipelas	-	2	2
Pneumonia	-	1	1
Measles	121	123	244
Meningococcal Infection	1	1	2
Whooping Cough	2	-	2
	<u>124</u>	<u>127</u>	<u>251</u>

TUBERCULOSIS

Three cases of pulmonary tuberculosis were notified during 1965. Two cases of non-pulmonary tuberculosis were notified. Details of these cases are set out in the following table:

<u>Age Periods</u>	<u>Pulmonary</u>		<u>Non-Pulmonary</u>	
	<u>M</u>	<u>F</u>	<u>M</u>	<u>F</u>
Under five years	-	-	-	-
5 - 14	-	-	-	-
15 - 24	-	-	-	-
25 - 44	1	1	-	-
45 - 64	1	-	1	-
65 and over	-	-	-	1
	<u>2</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>

Total : 5

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACTS, 1948 and 1951

Official action under Section 47 of the National Assistance Acts, 1948 and 1951, was necessary in one case during 1965.

NEWTON ABBOT
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT

OF

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

FOR

1965

STAFF

Chief Public Health Inspector

C.E.Pethick, F.A.P.H.I.

Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector.

F.J.Webb

Additional Public Health Inspector

T.J.Price.

Shorthand Typist

Miss.S.Weaver.

Clerk

Miss.P.Evans

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL

Mr Chairman and Councillors,

I submit herewith the Annual Report for the year ending 31st December, 1965.

DRAINAGE:

Details of the work carried out under this heading are as follows:-

Number of premises visited	64
Number of tests applied	99
Number of visits made	401

FACTORIES:

1. Inspections

	No. on register.	Inspec- tions.	No. of written Notices.	Occupier prosec- uted.
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authority.	6	4	1	-
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by Local Authority.	65	14	-	-
(iii) Other premises in which section 7 is enforced by Local Authority.	10	10	-	-

2. Cases in which defects
were found.

	Found	Remedied	Ref to H.M. Insp.	Ref to H.M. Insp.	Prose- cution
No. of cases in which defects were found.					
Want of cleanliness (S1)	-	-	-	-	-
Overcrowding (S2)	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable Temperature (S3)	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate Ventilation. (S4)	-	-	-	-	-

FACTORIES (Cont'd)

2. Cases in which defects were found.	Found.	Remedied.	Ref to H.M. Insp.	Ref. to H.M. Insp.	Prose- cution.
--	--------	-----------	----------------------------	-----------------------------	-------------------

No. of cases in which
defects were found:-

Inneffective Drainage of floors (S6)	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences(S7)					
(a) insufficient	-	-	-	-	-
(b) unsuitable or defective.	1	1	-	-	-
(c) not separate for sexes.	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences (not relating to outwork)	-	-	-	-	-

FOOD INSPECTION

1. Meat Inspection.

The number of animals slaughtered at the Public Abattoir again shows a decrease compared with previous years.

The decline in numbers is less marked than between the figures for 1963 and 1964, when there was a reduction of over 20 per cent in the number of animals dealt with. The decrease for the year under review compared with 1964 amounts to about 10 per cent and there are indications that the decrease in numbers for some categories of animals may be halted.

Details of the animals slaughtered, and the results of inspection are shown in the following tables:-

FOOD INSPECTION (Cont'd)

	Cattle	Cows	Calves	Sheep	Pigs	Goats
No.Killed	2997	781	2519	10,761	5416	-
No.Inspected	2997	781	2519	10,761	5416	-
All diseases other than Tuberculosis						
(i) Whole carcase condemned	4	5	63	137	34	-
(ii) Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned.	479	217	26	2,225	956	-
% of animals inspected affected by disease other than Tuberculosis	16.12	28.43	3.14	21.95	18.28	-
Tuberculosis only						
(i) Whole carcases condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-
(ii) Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned.	-	-	-	-	80	-
% of animals inspected affected by Tuberculosis	-	-	-	-	1.48	-
No.of cases of Cysticercus Bovis.	9					
	<u>1960</u>	<u>1961</u>	<u>1962</u>	<u>1963</u>	<u>1964</u>	<u>1965</u>
Bullocks	4,409	4,957	5,104	5,308	4,518	3,778
Calves	9,462	9,257	8,866	6,231	3,114	2,519
Sheep	19,087	18,125	14,770	14,554	12,452	10,761
Pigs	7,287	7,666	7,258	7,102	5,885	5,416
	40,245	40,005	35,998	33,195	25,969	22,474

FOOD INSPECTION (Cont'd)

2. Meat Inspection Regulations

It is again satisfactory to be able to report that 100% inspection of carcasses has been maintained.

3. Unsound Food

During the course of the year, the following foodstuffs have been found to be unfit for human consumption:-

12	Cattle carcasses
67	Calve carcasses
126	Sheep carcasses
43	Pig carcasses
81	Cattle heads
87	Pigs heads
4,092	Offals & Parts
529	Meat/Meat products
705	Tins Fruit products
510	Tins Fish
720	Tins Vegetable products
23	Jars of Jam
3	Cartons Cream
8	Packets Mousse.
1	Sponge
21	Milk Puddings
31	Tins Milk
12	Tins of Soup
2	Tins of Chocolate Drink
1	Tin of Coffee
6	1 person dinners (frozen)
11	Bottles fruit juice
2	Pkts.Sausage rolls.
12	Pkts.Puff Pastry
393	lbs. Meat
163	lbs. Jam preserves
94 $\frac{1}{4}$	lbs. Poultry
33	lbs. Walnuts
31	lbs. Butter
28	lbs.Frozen Eggs
27 $\frac{3}{4}$	lbs.Sausage Meat
21	lbs. Cheese
20	lbs. Lobster.
9 $\frac{1}{2}$	lbs. Lard
8	lbs. Margarine

4. Ice-Cream

The number of Ice-cream samples that were taken in 1965 are as follows:-

Grade 1	-	Satisfactory	-	11 Samples
Grade 2	-	Fairly Satisfactory	-	1 Sample
Grade 3	-	Unsatisfactory	-	4 Samples
Grade 4	-	Very Bad	-	- Samples

Food/...

5. General

Informal action has been taken with regard to some complaints brought to my office and proceedings were instituted in the following cases:-

- (i) The sale of a mouldy loaf of bread.
- (ii) The sale of a packet of biscuits containing insects.

In each of these cases a conviction was obtained and fines imposed.

During the year 87 visits were paid to cafes and restaurants and 171 visits to other food handling premises.

9 Informal Notices were served under the Food & Drugs Act 1955.

HOUSING ACTS

1. The number of dwellings dealt with under the Improvement Grant Scheme are as follows:-

- (i) No. of properties receiving grant:-
 - (a) Standard Grant 29
 - (b) Discretionary Grant 5

- (ii) No. of inspections carried out 103

2. Public Health & Housing Acts:-

A summary of the work carried out under this heading is as follows:-

- (i) Number of houses inspected under the Public Health Acts 80
- (ii) Number of houses inspected under the Housing Acts 58
- (iii) Number of Informal Notices served 31
- (iv) Number of Statutory Notices served:-
 - (a) Under Section 9, Housing Act 1957 1
 - (b) Under Section 16, Housing Act 1957 18
 - (c) Under Section 17, Housing Act 1957 3
 - (d) Under Section 18, Housing Act 1957 5
 - (e) Under Public Health Act 1936 -
- (v) Number of dwellings rendered fit 20
- (vi) Number of part of dwellings closed 3
- (vii) Number of inspections made 210

3. Housing

- (i) Number of Council Houses constructed 20
- (ii) Number of private houses constructed 67

4. Housing Act 1957

Action was taken to deal with the programme of slum clearance as follows:-

- (a) Making a clearance area in respect of a total of 30 properties in Albany Street and Victoria Place.
- (b) Service of time and place notices as to offers of works or future user of the following wellings:-

Nos. 1,3 and 5 Exeter Road.
Nos. 2/4, 6 and 8 Highweek Road.
Nos. 1,2,3 Oakmead Cottages.
Greycoat Lane.
11, Courtenay Road.

OFFICES, SHOPS & RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963

The number of premises registered during the 12 months ending 31st December 1965 were 55, details as follows, making a total to date of 327:-

1.	(i)	Offices	28
	(ii)	Retail Shops	20
	(iii)	Wholesale Shops, Warehouses	2
	(iv)	Catering establishments open to the public, Canteens	5
	(v)	Fuel Storage depots	-
2.		Number of visits	47

REFUSE COLLECTION & DISPOSAL

The purchase of land at Penn Inn Marshes for refuse disposal was not finalised and the attention of the Council was drawn to extreme urgency of the problem of tipping of refuse.

Alternative methods of refuse disposal were gone into very thoroughly by the Council, and a refuse pulverising scheme was considered to present a number of advantages.

Various pulverising systems were under active consideration at the end of the year, and visit to Bristol to examine a pulverising machine in action was made.

It was/.....

Refuse Collection & Disposal (Cont'd)

It was finally decided to make the necessary arrangements to enable a pulverising plant to be installed on the present refuse tip and applications have been submitted for planning approval for the tipping of pulverised refuse in two areas. At the time of writing this report this matter has not been finalised.

RODENT CONTROL - General Treatment

49 private dwellings and 37 other premises were tested for rat infestations, a total of 109 visits being made in this connection.

Sewer Treatment

Two treatments of the sewerage system of the town were carried out.

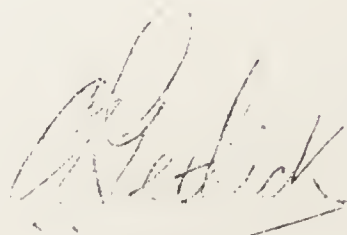
STAFF

No changes have taken place in staff of this department during the year under review and it is again a pleasure to record my thanks to all members for the manner in which the work has been carried out.

My thanks **are** also due to the Council for their support and consideration during the year and to colleagues for the co-operation that has been given to me.

I am,

Your obedient servant.



Chief Public Health Inspector.

